

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, UN

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (HRC)

1. AT OPENING OF MEETING FEB 3 CHAIRMAN NOTED PRESENCE IN MEETING ROOM OF OBSERVERS FROM NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS FROM AFRICA (WHICH HE NAMED) AND OF PLO. HE RECALLED ACTION TAKEN BY HRC AT ITS 31ST SESSION PURSUANT TO GA RESES 3237 AND 3280 IN ACCORDING OBSERVER STATUS TO NAMED NLM'S. COMMENT: AS NOTED GENEVA 0717 QUESTION OF PLO OBSERVER STATUS AT 32ND HRC DISCUSSED AFTER MEETING OF FEB 2 BY GARMENT (US) WITH SHREIBER (SECRETARIAT) AND MEMBER EGYPTIAN DEL. BOTH STRESSED DESIRABILITY OF AVOIDING NECESSITY FOR VOITE OVER ISSUE (PARTICULARLY US NEGATIVE VOTE AND UK ABSTENTION), A VIEW SUBSEQUENTLY CONCURRED IN BY ISRAELI DEL. GARMENT AGREED NOT TO CALL FOR VOTE ON CONDITION CHAIRMAN MAKE APPROPRIATE STATEMENT SIMPLY INDICATING ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF OBSERVER STATUS BY 32ND HRC, BUT NOT REQUIRING SPECIFIC ACQUIESCENCE BY COMMISSION. CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT WAS SHOWN TO AND APPROVED BY GARMENT PRIOR TO DELIVERY.

2. HRC THEN ADOPTED AGENDA AFTER DECIDING TO ADD, ON PROPOSAL OF BYELORUSSIAN SSR, ITEM, "STATUS OF INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS AON HUMAN RIGHTS". AGENDA ITEMS UNCHANGED
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FROM PROVISIONAL AGENDA (DOC. E/CN. 4/1182) EXCEPT FOR

ITEM 14 RELATING TO STUDY OF WAYS AND MEANS OF ENSURING IMPLEMENTATION OF UN RESOLUTIONS BEARING ON APARTHEID, RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (GA RES. 3377 XXX). AFTER MOTION BY OAU OBSERVER THAT TITLE OF ITEM BE AMENDED TO MAKE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM FOR DECADE FOR ACTION TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, DELS OF JORDAN AND EGYPT PROPOSED SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO ALL RESOLUTIONS OF THIRTIETH GA RELATING TO DECADE, INCLUDING RES. 3379 (ZIONISM-RACISM). FRG AND US DELS (GARMENT) OPPOSED PROPOSED LISTING, GARMENT NOTING THAT INTRODUCTION INTO AGENDA OF SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO "MOST DIVISIVE RES. IN UN HISTORY" CERTAIN TO RESULT IN BOYCOTT OF ITEM BY "AT LEAST ONE DELEGATION". DISCUSSING ENDED BY ADOPTION OF COMPROMISE FORMULATION PROPOSED BY SENEGAL RETAINING EXISTING TITLE OF ITEM 14 AS SUB-ITEM (A) AND ADDING SUB-ITEM (B) ENTITLED "IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM FOR THE DECADE". ALL REFERENCES TO ANY GA RESOLUTION IN EITHER SUB-ITEM ARE TO BE OMITTED.

3. ENSUING DISCUSSION OF ORGAINZATION OF WORK INCONCLUSIVE, DUE CHIEFLY TO LACK OF DOCUMENTATION ON NUMBER OF KEY ITEMS. US GENERAL POSITION ON HRC WORK PROGRAM AND AGENDA PRESENTED BY GARMENT (TEXT IN GENEVA 0716M AFTER INFORMALLY PROPOSING THAT ORDER OF ITEMS IN PROVISIONAL AGENDA BE FOLLOWED (DOC. E.CN.41182), CHAIRMAN NOTED NUMBER OF DELS INTERESTED IN ITEM 4 (ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES) NOT PREPARED FOR DISCUSSION UNTIL FEB 8. SINCE DOCUMENTATION ON ITEM 5 (CHILE) NOT YET READY, CHAIRMAN PROPOSED COMMISSION BEGIN WITH ITEM 6 (ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS). IN MEANTIME COMMISSION BUREAU WILL MEET TO CONSIDER SESSION TIMETABLE AND US AND SENEGAL PROPOSALS FOR WORKING GROUPS ON ITEM 12 (RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE DECLARATION) AND ITEM 15(D) (PRINCIPLES FOR PROTECTION OF PERSONS UNDER DETENTION).

4. DURING DISCUSSION OF ORDER OF AGENDA YUGOSLAV REP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROPOSED PRIORITY ATTENTION TO ITEMS 9 (SELF-DETERMINATION) AND 10 (ASSISTANCE TO COLONIST AND RACIST REGUMES). HIS EXPLANATORY REMARKS SUGGESTED INTENTION TO HIGHLIGHT ANGOLA SITUATION.DALE

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